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|  | Skip to My Lou  Nadine Bernard Westcott  0395539250  978-0395539255  Paperback: 32 pages  Publisher: Houghton Mifflin (1991) | Product Description  "Flies in the sugarbowl / Shoo fly shoo. Cats in the buttermilk / Two by two. Pigs in the parlor / What'll I do? Skip to my Lou / My darling!" Left to mind the farm while his parents go shopping, a little boy watches helplessly as the barnyard animals take over. Well, if you can't beat 'em, join 'em! Soon he's sharing in the hullabaloo, frolicking with the cows in the kitchen, the sheep in the bathtub, and the roosters in the pantry, helping to make a major mess. This lively adaptation of the well-loved song is guaranteed to perk up the dullest day. Nadine Bernard Westcott creates a riot of sounds, sights, and giggles for the young and old. As in her other song-to-book adaptations the lyrics form most of the text, while Westcott's delightfully chaotic watercolors turn the simple song into a hilarious story. |
|  | B-I-N-G-O  Hans Wilhelm  043974542X  978-0439745420  Paperback: 32 pages  Publisher: Scholastic (2005) | Product Description  Sing along out loud as you read about a farmer and his dog with a very catchy "name-o"! The lyrics to this popular song are illustrated by Hans Wilhelm. A CD featuring B-I-N-G-O and two other songs in the series, She'll Be Comin' around the Mountain and Fire Truck, is attached to the inside cover! |
|  | Peanut Butter and Jelly  Nadine Bernard Westcott  0140548521  978-0140548525  Paperback: 32 pages  Publisher: Puffin (1992)  Reading Level: Pre K- Grade 2 | From School Library Journal  PreSchool-Grade 2 A peanut butter and jelly sandwich a la Westcott. With the help of elephants and a baker, two children create a table-size sandwich from scratch. First, the bread is kneaded, baked, and sliced. Then from beneath the kitchen table emerge five elephants, each armed with a bag of peanuts that they stomp into peanut butter. Next, on to the bathtub filled with grapes which are squashed into jelly. The result of this festive cooperative endeavor is a giant ``p & j'' sandwich consumed by all. The rhythmic text is a traditional song; it is made all the more delightful with Westcott's watercolor illustrations in pastels and muted tints. They fill double-page spreads but are not cluttered. Each scene prompts giggles and is enhanced by the sideline actions of a pet cat who looks shocked by the entire escapade, a dog who licks his chops in anticipation of snatching a morsel, and finally, the mother who faints in the kitchen doorway after witnessing the crowd. The book's large, humorous, colorful spreads make it conducive for group sharing. Instructions for the accompanying hand and foot motions are appended. A real treasure with potential use in any library's programming, especially storytimes. |
|  | We’re Going on a Bear Hunt  Michael Rosen  0689504764  Paperback: 32 pages  Publisher: Margret K. McElderry (1989)  Reading Level: Ages 4-9 | From Publishers Weekly  A father and his four children--a toddler, a preschool boy and two older girls--go on the traditional bear hunt based on the old camp chant: "We're going to catch a big one. / What a beautiful day! / We're not scared. / Oh-oh! Grass! / Long, wavy grass. / We can't go over it. / We can't go under it. / Oh, no! / We've got to go through it!" The family skids down a grassy slope, swishes across a river, sludges through mud and, of course, finally sees the bear, who chases them all back to their home. It's a fantastic journey--was it real or imagined?--with the family's actions (and interaction) adding to the trip a goodnatured, jolly mood. The design of the oversized volume alternates black-and-white drawings with gorgeous full-color watercolor paintings, which Oxenbury uses to wonderful effect. Readers accustomed to her board books will find a different style here, of puddled colors and sweeps of light and shadow. The scale of the pictures and the ease with which the text can be shouted aloud make this ideal for families or groups to share. |
|  | Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed  Eileen Christelow  0618836829  978-0618836826  Paperback: 32 pages  Publisher Sandpiper (2006)  Reading Level: Ages 3-8 | From School Library Journal  In a brief prelude to the title rhyme, five little monkeys ready themselves for bed, and say goodnight to their mother. Then, really getting down to business, they launch into some serious bed-jumping. Young children familiar with this popular finger play will appreciate Christelow's incorrigible monkeys, jumping with abandon, oblivious to the repeated warning: "No more monkeys jumping on the bed!" Newcomers will find the rhyme a delightful discovery which begs to be repeated. With each successive casualty, mother monkey dutifully consults the doctor, and bandages the wounds. Finally, all five battle-weary monkey children are asleep, and mother can go to bed. Colored pencil drawings in soft pastels depict the totally silly but lovable monkey family and its doctor. This is a natural for younger story hours, and can also be used with beginning readers. Whether sublimely happy or ridiculously goofy, Christelow's expressive monkeys pack a lot of appeal. |